

In The Specification

Please add the following paragraph after the paragraph that begins at page 5, line 28 and ends at page 5, line 31:

FIG. 8a is a front partial elevational view of another illustrative embodiment of the ball hitting practice apparatus shown in FIG. 2, taken from line 8-8 of FIG. 2 according to the present invention.

Please replace the paragraph that begins at page 12, line 7 and ends at page 12, line 14 with the following amended version of that paragraph:

Hinge 20 can be constructed to provide member 15 limited motion out of vertical plane 11 as well. For example, spring element 33 can be attached between hinge 20 and member 15 as shown in FIG. 8a or within bottom part 22 itself. Such out-of-plane motion may be desirable to prevent injury if a person bumps into member 15 in a direction that is out of vertical plane 11.

REMARKS

Summary Of Office Action

Claims 1-63 were pending in the above-identified patent application. The Examiner withdrew claims 47-58 from further consideration as being drawn to a non-elected invention.

The Examiner objected to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a). It was noted that the application was filed with